Testimony Re: HB 5653

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXCISE TAX ON AMMUNITION

I OPPOSE this.

In Connecticut, ammunition is <u>already subject to an ADDITIONAL 11%</u> tax on top of CT sales tax. Responsible gun owners continue to get punished for the sins of others. Connecticut has very strict laws for gun ownership; to add more tax is just a money grab from honest taxpayers.

A box of training ammunition (on sale) costs me \$18.00. Plus sales tax and 11% sur tax. That brings me to over \$20.00 for 50 bullets which is the equivalent of about 20 minutes of practice shooting at the range. Practice is an integral component of gun ownership. Adding more taxes limits my ability to purchase sufficient practice ammunition.

It has become commonplace to learn about early release of criminals and/or lowered jail sentences. Perhaps the focus should be on enforcing laws that are already on the books rather than taxing already over burdened citizens.